

I CLAIM:

1. A pen or stylus-operated graphical user interface for a computer or computing device, comprising:

5 (a) a sensing surface having an area corresponding to a data input field, said sensing surface conditioned for hand entering and editing of graphical input symbols; and

(b) user recognition software operative to analyze said graphical input
10 symbols and to superimpose a display field of character data corresponding to said graphical input symbols on said data input field.

2. An interface according to claim 1, wherein said sensing surface is a display surface.

15 3. An interface according to claim 1, wherein said sensing surface is a tablet separate from a display surface.

4 An interface according to claim 1, wherein said user recognition software also
20 initiates an action based upon said graphical input symbol.

5. An interface according to claim 1, wherein said user recognition software initiates an editing mode when said pen or stylus contacts said sensing surface without moving for a predetermined minimum amount of time.

6. An interface according to claim 5, wherein said minimum amount of time is 200 msec.
- 5 7. An interface according to claim 5, wherein movement of said pen, in predefined ways, without being removed from said data input field, causes corresponding editing functions to be effected.
8. An interface according to claim 7, wherein said character data is corrected and
10 edited in said editing mode without moving a cursor for said pen or stylus outside said data input field of said sensing surface.
9. A method of combining data entry of handwritten symbols with displayed character data in a pen or stylus-operated graphical user interface for a computer
15 or computing device, comprising:
- (a) displaying handwritten graphical input symbols on a data input field of a display surface as they are entered; and
- 20 (b) analysing said graphical input symbols with handwriting recognition software and superimposing on the display field character data corresponding to said graphical input symbols.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said graphical input symbols are entered on a sensing surface.
11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said sensing surface is separate from said display surface.
12. A method according to claim 10, wherein said sensing surface is at least part of said display surface.
13. A method according to claim 9, wherein said handwriting recognition software also initiates an action based upon said graphical input symbol.
14. A method according to claim 9, wherein said handwriting recognition software initiates an editing mode when said pen or stylus contacts said display for a predetermined minimum time without moving.
15. A method according to claim 14, wherein movement of said pen, without being removed from said data input field, in predefined ways, causes corresponding editing functions to be effected.
16. A method according to claim 15, wherein character data is corrected and edited in said editing mode without moving a cursor for said pen or stylus outside said data input field.